

State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

****NEWS RELEASE****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Five PK-16 partnerships receive math and science grants

Math and science partnerships to impact middle school math and rural science education

MADISON—Five math and science partnerships affecting 27 school districts and approximately 350 teachers will share \$1.5 million in funding for projects throughout the state to improve middle school mathematics or chemistry and physics in rural schools.

"Through data-driven targeting of funds, these partnerships will work to improve science education in rural areas of the state and to lift middle school math achievement," said State

Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster in announcing the grants. "Staff development activities funded through these grants will increase the subject matter knowledge of our teaching staff, supporting our efforts to provide quality teachers in every classroom and close the achievement gap between children of color, economically disadvantaged children and their peers."

Based on data from the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations (WKCE), Wisconsin set a priority to fund projects for middle school mathematics or projects for chemistry and physics in rural school settings. Districts with schools identified for improvement or districts with a small student population that partner together to serve a minimum of 2,000 students received priority for grant awards. Central to the improvement effort is the partnership between the high-needs district and the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics faculty of a college or university. Partnerships could include other schools, businesses, or organizations.

Grant awards, offered under the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

Improving Teacher Quality Grant Program, are for one-year projects that improve student achievement in mathematics and science through enhanced training for teachers of those subjects. Each project incorporates a summer institute and follow-up contact hours throughout the academic year that deepen

(more)

the ability of teachers to understand and use the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Mathematics and Science.

"These grants, supporting partnerships among our pre-kindergarten through 12th grade schools and our state's colleges and universities, will help our students to gain a strong foundation in mathematics and science from teachers who have extensive knowledge of and strong teaching skills in these subjects," Burmaster said.

Mathematics and Science Partnership Program

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title II, Part B — 2005-06 Awards

La Crosse Partnership, \$272,948

Blair-Taylor School District Holmen School District La Crosse School District Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton School District Onalaska School District University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

Laona/ Wisconsin Academy Staff Development Initiative Partnership*, \$198,373

Alma Center School District Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District Flambeau School District Laona School District Mellen School District Stockbridge School District University of Wisconsin-Barron County

Madison Partnership, \$372,450

Beloit School District
De Forest Area School District
Deerfield Community School District
Madison Metropolitan School District

Monona Grove School District Mount Horeb Area School District Oregon School District Sauk Prairie School District Sun Prairie Area School District University of Wisconsin-Madison

Milwaukee Public Schools Partnership, \$345,895

Milwaukee Partnership Academy Milwaukee Public Schools University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Sharon J11 Partnership, \$276,562

Beloit Turner School District

Dynamic Math Institute
Fontana J8 School District
Linn J6 School District
Marquette University, Milwaukee
Sharon J11 School District
Twin Lakes #4 School District
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
Viterbo University, La Crosse
Walworth J1 School District

^{*} Grant funds the district's science application.